

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

SUB A² A communication system and methodology for providing a signal of interest to at least one movable platform, for possible use by passengers associated with the movable platform, from an information source, where the movable platform is not within a signal coverage area of the information source. The method includes steps of transmitting an information signal containing information with a transmitter located at the information source, receiving the information with a first transmitter/receiver unit located on a first movable platform that is within the signal coverage of the information source, and re-transmitting the information signal with the transmitter/receiver unit to a receiver located on a second movable platform that is not within the signal coverage area of the information source. The method may further include repeating the steps of receiving and re-transmitting the information signal along a signal path with at least one additional transmitter/receiver unit located on a third movable platform, to provide the information signal between the first movable platform and the second movable platform. The system comprises an information source, including a transmitter that transmits the information signal, a transmitter/receiver unit located on a first movable platform that receives and re-transmits the information signal, and a destination that includes a receiver that receives the information signal. The system may also include at least one additional transmitter/receiver, located on a second movable platform, that receives and re-transmits the information signal to provide the information signal between the first movable platform and the destination.

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